



Find out the latest news about habitat management, trails, public outreach, and more!



## Welcome!

Welcome to the first issue of our new HMP Newsletter! The purpose of this newsletter is to inform Carlsbad citizens and other interested parties about the Habitat Management Plan (HMP) preserve system, trails, habitat management, biological monitoring, public outreach activities, and volunteer opportunities. In addition, the newsletter will include a Featured Species or Habitat segment, which will provide information about the native plants,

animals, and habitats that are protected in the HMP preserve.

### What is the HMP?

The HMP identifies and provides for the City-wide protection of sensitive plants, animals, and habitats while allowing compatible development.

The HMP is a regulatory document that identifies the City's obligations in protecting the HMP preserve system. It is part of a larger, re-

gional Multiple Habitat Conservation Program (MHCP), which provides a framework for the assembly of a preserve system in several jurisdictions in North County, including Oceanside, Encinitas, Escondido, and San Marcos.



Del Mar Mesa Sand Aster  
(*Corethrogyne filaginifolia* var. *linifolia*)

## Featured Species: Thread-leaved Brodiaea

Thread-leaved brodiaea (*Brodiaea filifolia*) is a purple-flowered perennial that is a member of the lily family. This species gets its name from its long, narrow leaves that arise each year from



Thread-leaved Brodiaea  
(*Brodiaea filifolia*)

a corm, which is similar to a bulb. It thrives in open habitat, such as grassland, floodplains, or vernal pools, and

prefers clay soils or other soils with clay substrates.

Thread-leaved brodiaea occurs in portions of Los Angeles, Orange, San Bernardino, western Riverside, and San Diego

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### Did you know...?

- A mature pampas grass (an invasive species) can produce about 50 plumes each season; each plume can produce up to 100,000 seeds; and the seeds can travel up to 20 miles!
- Feeding wildlife can impair health, reproduction, diminish foraging skills, and attract pests such as rats or non-native bird species.

## Featured Species *continued*

Counties. Within San Diego County, the majority of thread-leaved brodiaea populations are in the cities of Carlsbad, San Marcos, and Vista.

Thread-leaved brodiaea can be difficult to find, because, unless it is in flower, it is very hard to see. Additionally, the amount of flowers produced from year to year can vary tremendously depending on the amount and timing of rainfall. As part of an ongoing study, the Center for Natural Lands Management (CNLM) has learned



Can you find the Thread-leaved brodiaea?

that only about 2% to 26% of the plants flower at any given time, making it challenging to accurately estimate population size.

Major threats to this species include habitat fragmentation and loss of habitat through development, infestation by invasive plant species, disking for fire suppression and weed control, off-road vehicle activity, and changes in hydrology.

Within the City of Carlsbad, this species is being protected on preserve lands

managed by CNLM through an active invasive species removal program and regular monitoring. In addition, a preserve of approximately 16 acres has been set aside as mitigation for development on the Fox-Miller property, located along El Camino Real Blvd.



## Upcoming Events

### City of Carlsbad Trails Program

The City of Carlsbad Trails Program is focused on preserving, maintaining, protecting, developing, and operating trails in Carlsbad in perpetuity for public use.

For maps and descriptions of the trails located throughout Carlsbad, please visit [www.carlsbadca.gov/trails](http://www.carlsbadca.gov/trails). If you are interested in becoming a trail volunteer, please contact Sue Irey, Community Volunteer Coordinator 760-434-2929 or sign up at [www.VolunteerinCarlsbad.net](http://www.VolunteerinCarlsbad.net).

### 2nd Saturday Trail Work Events\* 8:30 am—11:30 am

- October 10—Lake Calavera
- November 14—Santa Fe Trails
- December 12—The Ranch

\*Because Second Saturday events are subject to change, volunteers will be notified of meeting times by email. Contacts: Gary Hill 760-727-5764, Liz Ketabian 760-434-2978.

## Event Highlight

### National Public Lands Day

#### Lake Calavera Clean-up

**Saturday, September 26, 2009**

**8:00 am—11:30 pm**

The City of Carlsbad is sponsoring an Open Space and Trail Clean-up as part of National Public Lands Day. Water, snacks and trash bags will be provided. Please wear hiking shoes, work gloves, a hat and sunscreen.

Work will include installation of trail signage, removal of invasive plants, and minor trail erosion improvements. For more info go to:

[www.carlsbadhmp.org/newsletter/vol1-no1-npld-event.pdf](http://www.carlsbadhmp.org/newsletter/vol1-no1-npld-event.pdf)

### Quarterly Trail Volunteer Meetings

- September 17—5 pm at Carlsbad Senior Center
- December 10—5 pm at Carlsbad Senior Center

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## Recent Accomplishments

The HMP team has been busy over the last year preparing materials to assist in understanding HMP regulations, giving presentations, and preparing grant proposals to fund specific conservation projects. Here are some highlights:

### **GUIDELINES**

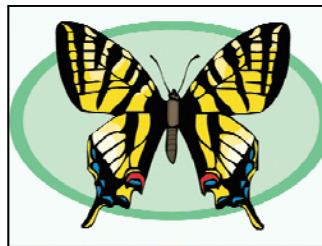
The following guidelines have been prepared to assist City Planning staff, preserve managers, biological consultants, wildlife agencies, and developers. The guidelines are available on the HMP website [www.carlsbadhmp.org/documents.html#guidelines](http://www.carlsbadhmp.org/documents.html#guidelines).

**Biological Studies** - MHCP/HMP regulations, biological resources

technical report contents, impact analysis, and mitigation requirements.

**Preserve Management** –Priority species for monitoring and HMP submission requirements for reports and data.

**Habitat Creation and Restoration** –Critical components of a habitat creation or restoration plan.



### **GRANT PROPOSALS**

The following grant proposals were obtained this year.

*\$287,000 granted to the City of Carlsbad by the SANDAG TransNet Environmental Mitigation Program (EMP) for restoration and access control in the Calavera Hills preserve planning area. See below for more information.*

*\$55,000 granted to the Center for Natural Lands Management by the TransNet EMP to remove non-native invasive species from Rancho La Costa Preserve.*

## Lake Calavera Preserve

Lake Calavera Preserve is getting a greatly needed face lift! This preserve, located in the northeastern portion of the City, is a long-time favorite hiking and biking destination for residents of Carlsbad and Oceanside. Unfortunately, years of unmanaged public use has resulted in habitat degradation.

Fortunately, Lake Calavera Preserve is getting a lot of attention these days, including:

- As of January 2009, the Center for Natural Lands Management is now actively managing the preserve.
- Approximately 2 acres of coastal sage scrub and riparian habitat are being restored as mitigation for impacts incurred during repair to the dam.
- The TransNet grant project (mentioned above) will restore 5 acres of coastal sage scrub; install fencing, gates, and signage; and implement a public outreach program.
- The Lake Calavera Trails Master Plan is in its final stage of completion, and will include formalizing the trail system and installing dog waste disposal stations, kiosks, two picnic tables and a portable restroom.



## Upcoming Events *continued*

### **Planned Public Outreach for the HMP Program**

The City of Carlsbad Planning Department, in partnership with the Parks and Recreation Department, and Center for Natural Lands Management, will be develop-



ing a public outreach program in the coming months as part of Habitat Management Plan (HMP) implementation. Outreach and education activities and materials will include informational brochures, interpretive signage

at trailheads in HMP preserves, guided nature walks, public meetings and workshops (with topics such as conservation, invasive species, and native plants and animals), and opportunities for volunteers to get involved with restoration, invasive species removal, and trash pick up.



### CITY OF CARLSBAD HMP PROGRAM

#### Contact Information

Mike Grim — HMP Coordinator or  
Rosanne Humphrey — Preserve Steward

Planning Department  
1635 Faraday Ave.  
Carlsbad, CA 92008-7314

Phone: 760-602-4623  
E-mail: [HMP@carlsbadca.gov](mailto:HMP@carlsbadca.gov)

We're on the Web!  
[www.carlsbadhmp.org](http://www.carlsbadhmp.org)

## Interested in selling your land for conservation?

If you are interested in exploring the possibility of selling some or all of your property for open space preservation, you can contact the City (Mike Grim). In addition, the following organizations may be able to assist you:

- Trust for Public Lands
- Land Trust Alliance
- The Nature Conservancy
- California Dept. of Fish and Game
- SANDAG Environmental Mitigation Program
- California Coastal Conservancy

## Adding/Removing Your Name from the Mailing List



If you would like us to add or remove your name from our mailing list, please send us an email at [HMP@carlsbadca.gov](mailto:HMP@carlsbadca.gov).

You can also send us your questions or suggestions!

## About Our Website

Please come visit our website at [www.carlsbadhmp.org](http://www.carlsbadhmp.org). There is an abundance of information available, including:

- **Interactive preserve map.** Hover over the map with your mouse and individual preserves light up (note: this only works with Internet Explorer). Click on a preserve area, and a pop-up window will give you all of the basic information about that preserve.
- **Species and habitats:** Learn about native species and habitats in the Carlsbad area.
- **Maps:** download maps, including preserve system, vegetation, gnatcatcher core area, and more!
- **Documents:** an archive of educational materials, regulatory documents, preserve management plans, work plans, annual reports, etc.
- **FAQs:** Learn the answers to all of your questions! Some answers include an option for a more technical, expanded answer.
- **Links:** An abundance of links and resources for all topics related to plant and animal species, conservation, restoration, mapping tools, etc.
- **RSS feed:** keep up to date with our RSS feed. Just look for this symbol and click on it for the latest website update.



## How You Can Help

There are many ways you can help protect Carlsbad's precious preserves. Here are a few ideas:

- Donate your time
- Donate money or badly needed items
- Take personal responsibility for preserve conservation by learning about edge effects, and following the steps outlined in our edge effects brochure [www.carlsbadhmp.org/pdfs/edgeeffects.pdf](http://www.carlsbadhmp.org/pdfs/edgeeffects.pdf)

Here are some programs that could use your donations:

### *Citywide Trails Adopt-A-Trail Program*

Parks and Recreation Department. See brochure [www.carlsbadhmp.org/newsletter/vol1-no1-adoptatrail.pdf](http://www.carlsbadhmp.org/newsletter/vol1-no1-adoptatrail.pdf) or call Liz Ketabian (760-434-2978) for more information about how to donate your time or money.

### *Center for Natural Lands Management (CNLM)*

CNLM is a non-profit organization that manages many of the preserves within Carlsbad. Economic times are tough, and they could really use your help purchasing tools and materials, such as fencing (i.e., lodgepole), chainsaws, weed whips, skid sprayers, and power tools. These tools will be used to remove invasive species. Call Markus Spiegelberg or go to [www.cnlm.org](http://www.cnlm.org) for more information 619-295-4953.